

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 12 as follows:

Figure 6 is a detail view to a larger scale of an ultrasonic treatment instrument comprising a gripping member of improved ~~adherence~~ close contact that can be mounted on the jaw in a ~~straightforward~~ simple fashion;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 3 as follows:

Also, the cylindrical cover 34a is provided at its distal end with a unit coupling section 34b that is detachably connected with a transducer connecting unit 6b of a manipulating section main body 6a, to be described, of the ~~hand~~ handle unit 31. A C-shaped connecting ring 39 (so-called C ring) formed by removing a part of a ring is mounted at the peripheral surface of the unit coupling section 34b. The coupling ring 39 is formed of a substantially half-moon shaped cross-section, the ~~periphery of its cross-sectional shape~~ outer circumference of the coupling ring 39 being arcuate.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 9 as follows:

Also, at the vibration transmitting member 9 of the present embodiment, in front of the second node from the proximal end, there is provided a proximal end-side horn 41c that performs a second stage of amplitude magnification. Furthermore, at the distal end of the proximal end-side horn 41c, there are provided, in order, an intermediate section 41d that performs transmission of ultrasonic vibrations, a distal end-side horn 41e that performs the final amplitude magnification and a treatment section 41f (ultrasonic probe). The treatment section 41f that is arranged at the ~~very~~ distal most end of the vibration transmitting member 9 is formed in substantially circular cross-sectional shape.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 3 as follows:

In addition, the manipulating section main body 6a is a fixed side, and is provided with a fixed handle 42 ~~at-a-fixed-side~~, on its peripheral surface, and a moveable handle 43 that is freely rotatable and that constitutes control means; the fixed handle 42 and the moveable handle 43 constitute an operating handle 8 (see Figure 1). The manipulating section main body 6a may be provided with an electrode pin for high frequency electric current connection, to which a high frequency electric power source supply device, not shown, is connected. In this case, the sheath 4 may be fitted with an insulating tube, not shown. Alternatively, the sheath 4, manipulating section 6, fixed handle 42, moveable handle 43 and moveable jaw 50 may be formed of plastic.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 22 as follows:

Incidentally, the prior art ultrasonic treatment instrument is formed with a jaw either of the same width as the total width of the gripping member or narrower than the gripping member. Consequently, with the prior art ultrasonic treatment instrument, there is a risk that the gripping member may not effectively adhere perform a close contact to the living-body tissue that is gripped between itself and the ultrasonic probe, due to resilient deformation of both sides of the jaw. Also, with the prior art ultrasonic treatment instrument, the construction of the portion whereby the gripping member is mounted on to the jaw is complicated.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 8 as follows:

An ultrasonic treatment instrument is therefore sought wherein mounting onto the jaw is straightforward simple and comprising a gripping member of improved adherence close contact.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 11 as follows:

Figure 6 and Figure 7 show the construction of an ultrasonic treatment instrument comprising a gripping member of improved adherence close contact wherein mounting onto the jaw is straightforward simple, Figure 6 being a detailed view to a larger scale of the ultrasonic treatment instrument and Figure 7 being a diagram showing an exploded condition of Figure 6.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 17 as follows:

In the ultrasonic treatment instrument 2C shown in Figure 6, a jaw 73 integrally comprises a jaw body 73A in such a manner to clamp house a gripping member 72 that is held in swingable rockable fashion at falerum pivot holes 71a by means of a pivot shaft 71. In the meantime, a number 74 is the ultrasonic probe.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 23 as follows:

Also, the jaw 73 may be constructed with the gripping member 72 mounted on the jaw body 73A in swingable rockable fashion in accordance with the living-body tissue that is gripped.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 1 as follows:

As shown in Figure 7, the jaw body 73A is formed in substantially U shape so as to cover the gripping member 72, and falerum pivot holes 75a are formed, through which a pivot shaft 71 passes in the vicinity of the middle thereof.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 5 as follows:

Furthermore, in the gripping member 72, a rigidity-increasing member 76 made of metal is inserted into and arranged extending in a hole 76a formed in the longitudinal

direction in a gripping section body 72A thereof made of ~~resin~~ plastic, and is formed with ~~fulerum~~ pivot holes 75a through which a pivot shaft 71 passes in the vicinity of the middle thereof.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 11 as follows:

In this way, rigidity of the gripping member 72 is ensured by the arrangement of the rigidity-increasing member 76 in a portion that otherwise makes little contribution to rigidity, namely, in the vicinity of the center of the cross-sectional shape thereof. Also, the jaw 73 is covered by the gripping member 72 and is constructed so as to hold the gripping member 72 in ~~swingable~~ rockable fashion by means of the pivot shaft 71.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 19 as follows:

In this way, high rigidity of the gripping member 72 of the ultrasonic treatment instrument 2C is ensured, and effective ~~adherence~~ close contact with respect to the living-body tissue that is gripped between the gripping member and the ultrasonic probe 74 is thereby made possible over the entire width. Also, mounting of the gripping member 72 onto the jaw 73 of the ultrasonic treatment instrument 2C is ~~straightforward~~ simple, so manufacture is easily accomplished.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 3 as follows:

Furthermore, since the metal portions that are exposed at the outer surface of the gripping member 72 are extremely small, the benefit is obtained in that ~~burning on of~~ ~~living body tissue due to the heat~~ the possibility of sticking of living body tissue burnt due to the heat to the metal portions is decreased, facilitating washing and cleaning. Also, in this example, the cross-sectional (front face) shape of the treatment portion 41f is substantially

rectangular. As a result, rigidity of the ultrasonic treatment instrument 2C in the vertical direction is improved and the energy density of the gripping face is increased.